(b) if so, whether Government have formulated any programme to exploit the gold reserves; and

(c) if so, what are the details the-
reof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Poor incidence of placer gold has been reported 'from Subansiri river in Aru-nachal Pradesh. A study by the Regional Research Laboratory, Jorhat and Directorate of Geology & Miining (Assam) has indicated occurence of 0.37 g/t of gold in Subansiri river, Assam at some places.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Dereservation of Minerals and Ores

2203. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that recently as many as 13 Minerals/ores which were hitherto reserved exclusively for the public sector have been dereserv-ed by Government;

(b) if so, what are the details thereoif;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the dereservation was done with the aim to attract private sector and 'foreign investment for sole exploring and exploiting the dereseryed mine-"als and ores; and

(d) if so, how far the aim has been achieved with details of the foreign nvestmentg offered in this field so 'tar after the dereservation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE. MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The National Mineral Pol icy has dereserved 13 minerals which were reserved for public sector explorta-tion. These minerals are iron ore, mang anese, chrome, sulphun gold, diamond, copper, lead, znic, molybdenum, tungs-tenj nkkel and platinum group of minerals.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The effect of these po changes will be fully noticeable ai consequential amendments to 1 Mines and Minerals (Regulat: and Development) Act, 1957 he been made.

Identiiiction of Gold Zones by C logical Survey of India in And Pradesh

2204. SHRI MENTAY PADMA! BHAM: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that Geological Survey of India identi gold bearing zones in Andhra *Ptasi*

(b) if so, what are the del thereof;

(c) whether Government had c ducted preliminray survey; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) (b) Yes, Sir. As a result of vey/exploration carrlied out by C logical Survey of India (GSI), a tal resource of 0.163 million tor of gold ore with an average grade 1.25 g/t to 11.39 g/t of gold in Ka palle, Bhadrampalle and Ramaptn areas of Anantapur district, ' million tonnes of gold ore with average grade of 4.0 g/t in chig gunta, Mallappakonda areas of C: tor district., Andhra Pradesh, h been established.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Pi minary surveys in Avulafhiapcarai block in Southern extension Kolar Schist Belt indicated an a malous auriferous zone of 500 strike length. Significant aurifer zones in chabala-vidapamakallu Ramagiri-Panakacharla schist 1 Anantapur district Virappallipeta near Erra doddi in Cuddapah disi have been identified based on the gional geo-chenaical surveys. Sc drilling cartiacl out in Dona block

Jonnagiri schist belt, Kumool district established auriferous mineralisation over a strike length of 700 m.

National Mineral policy

2205. SHRIMATI ILA PANDA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state;

(a) whether a National Mineral Policy for non-fuel and non-atomic minerals has been formulated by Government recently;

(b) if so, what are its main objectives;

(c) whether value-added exports will be given preference over raw-material exports; and

(d) whether Government would consider giving priority to actual users of minerals while leasing out the
mines to ensuise a proper linkage between mining, processing, and production of end-products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTERY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main objectives of the Mineral Policy are as follows: —

(i) to explore for identification of mineral wealth in the land and in off-shore areas;

(ii) to develop mineral resources taking into account the national and strategic considerations and to ensure their aeequate supply and best use keeping in view the present needs and future requirements;

(iii) to promote necessary linkages for smooth and uninterrupted development of the mineral industry to meat the needs of the country;

(iv) to promote research and development in minerals;

(v) to ensure establishment of appropriate educational and training facilities for human resources development to meet the manpower requirements of the mineral indnstry;

(vi) to minimise adverse effects of mineral development on the forest, environment and ecology through appropriate protective measures: and

(vii) ti ensure conduct of mining operations with due regard to safety and health of all concerned:

(c) Endeavour is to encourage export of value-added items as far as possible:

(d) The Mineral Policy aims to ensured that mineral processing units should not only g?t an assured supply of raw-matsrial but should also have closei links with the production and marketing agencies of the mineral based products:

Selection of General Manager in NMBCL, Hyderabad

2206. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will "the ateiiister of STEEL be pleaded to state;

(a) whether Government have re-reived series of complaints against selection of General Manager in Na tional Mineral Development Corpora tion Limited, Hyderabad;

(b) whehter recruitment rules were not followed by the company;

(c) whether Government would intervene into the matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?